

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 182453
ORIGIN SCS-06

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN: (JOHNSON, PETER D.)

SUBJECT: JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE: LETTERS ROGATORY IN MATTER
OF TESTIMONY OF PETER JOHNSON

REF: PARIS 22033

1. PERSON WHO ANSWERS AT MR. JOHNSON'S UNLISTED TELEPHONE
INDICATES THAT MR. JOHNSON IS IN EUROPE FOR THE NEXT FEW
WEEKS. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHERE HE IS OR WHEN EXACTLY HE WILL
RETURN. DEPARTMENT WILL MAKE FOLLOW UP INQUIRIES ACCORD-
INGLY.

2. THIS REQUEST DID NOT TAKE 2 YEARS TO EXECUTE AS
SUGGESTED BY FRENCH. SEE REFTEL. EMBASSY OF FRANCE
FORWARDED LETTERS ROGATORY UNDER A NOTE DATED 4/13/77.
SINCE THEIR NOTES ARE IN FRENCH, LANGUAGE SERVICES
TRANSLATED NOTE AND SCS RECEIVED THE CASE AT THE END OF
APRIL. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT PROMPTLY FORWARDED LETTERS
ROGATORY TO U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE. U.S. ATTORNEY PROMPTLY
SUBPOENAED JOHNSON WHO ADVISED HE HAD BROKEN HIS ARM AND
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PAGE 02 STATE 182453

COULD NOT DRIVE. A NEW DATE WAS SET. WHEN LETTERS
ROGATORY ARE EXECUTED A U.S. ATTORNEY REQUESTS COURT TO
APPOINT A DATE AND A MAGISTRATE BEFORE WHOM TESTIMONY WILL
BE TAKEN. COURT CALENDARS ARE NOT ALWAYS CONVENIENT.

ONCE TESTIMONY IS TAKEN IT IS NOT UNUSUAL FOR TESTIMONY TO
BE TRANSCRIBED OVER A PERIOD OF A MONTH OR SO. IN THIS

CASE TRANSCRIPT WAS 30 PAGES. TESTIMONY WAS RETURNED TO EMBASSY OF FRANCE UNDER NOTE DATED 2/6/78. PLEASE SO ADVISE THE FRENCH AUTHORITIES OF THESE EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE.

3. THE EMBASSY MAY ALSO WISH TO ADVISE THE FRENCH AUTHORITIES THAT IT MIGHT BE ADVISABLE IN THE FUTURE TO SPECIFY IN THEIR REQUESTS FOR JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE EXACTLY WHAT KIND OF IDENTITY INFORMATION THEY WILL REQUIRE FROM THE DEPONENT. (THE FRENCH EMBASSY HERE SOMETIMES ASKS THE SAME SORT OF QUESTIONS THAT YOU HAVE POSED IN REFTEL.) IN THE UNITED STATES WE DO NOT INQUIRE INTO AN INDIVIDUAL'S IDENTITY IN DETAIL UNLESS THAT IDENTITY IS SUSPECT. IN THIS CASE ON DIRECT EXAMINATION ON PAGE 6 OF THE TRANSCRIPT AND FOLLOWING PAGES CERTAIN IDENTITY QUESTIONS WERE ASKED OF MR. JOHNSON. HE WAS ASKED HIS FULL NAME, AGE (51 YEARS), ADDRESS, AND PROFESSION. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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